TOKYO GAZETTE

A MONTHLY REPORT OF CURRENT POLICIES, OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND STATISTICS

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CHINESE COMMUNISTS AND THE CHINA AFFAIR

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

IN analyzing basic forces that have driven China to adopt and pursue her present course of action against Japan, the power and influence of Chinese Communists assume more importance than any other forces and factors. It has been rightly pointed out by observers that to clarify the tripartite relationship between the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese Red Army and the Nationalist Government with the Communist International as its background is essential in grasping the true significance of the present armed conflict between Japan and China. An attempt is made in these pages, therefore, to trace somewhat historically the activities and movements of Chinese Communists from the years preceding the occurrence of the incident near Marco Polo Bridge down to the present time, particularly with reference to the aforementioned relationship.

Beginnings at Moscow

To induce the Chinese people to organize a powerful anti-Japanese popular front and to complete thereby preparations for a war against Japan have been consistent policies of the Comintern and the Soviet Union since the summer of 1935, when the 7th Congress of the Third International voted for the highest principles underlying their Chinese policy. The skilful working of the Moscow Government either directly or indirectly through the Chinese Communists resulted in the actual organization in China of the popular front against Japan, which has subsequently been converted into the national front. The Kuomintang became aligned with those anti-Japanese forces, in consequence of the Sian incident[1].

At the time when this anti-Japanese alignment was on the way to completion, the incident near Marco Polo Bridge broke out. The Comintern, therefore, lost no time in taking action; within a week after the outbreak, instructions from Moscow were received by the Chinese Communists in rapid succession. The following were their essential points:

1. The capture of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek by Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang as protest against Nanking's passive policy toward Japan, which occurred at Sianfu, Shensi Province, on December 12, 1936. The nature and significance of the incident as well as the way in which it was settled is explained in full elsewhere in this article.

1. Avoidance by any means of a local settlement of the incident and development of it into a comprehensive, frontal clash between China and Japan.

2. All available means to be adopted. Those leaders betraying the cause of emancipating China by effecting local settlement —those, for example, taking such a step as averting a frontal clash with Japan by separating North China from the rest of the Republic—or by making concessions to Japan to be eradicated.

3. Instigation of the lower classes to take such actions as will compel the Nationalist Government to wage war against Japan.

4. The Chinese Communist Party to enlarge the anti-Japanese boycott on a nation-wide scale. Third Powers to be checked from aiding Japan by threat of boycotts.

5. The Communist Army to cooperate with the Nationalist Army while effectively practising partisan warfare.

6. The Party to try to win subalterns, non-commissioned officers, soldiers in the armies and the masses over to Communism so that it may outrival the Nationalists in strength and popularity.

Acting on these instructions, Mr. Chou En-lai, representative of the Chinese Communists, held conferences with General Chiang and made proposals regarding the release of political offenders, reorganization of the Red Army and other important matters. Thus, in the latter part of September the Nationalist-Communist collaboration was formally effected.

Activities of the Moscow organization have by no means been confined to the issuing of the above-stated instructions. Further instructions have been sent as occasions have demanded; anti-Japanese propaganda has been conducted in China by Chinese and Russian agents and in other parts of the world by Communists in America, France and other countries. Nor can the activities of the Moscow Government be taken lightly. In particular, since the conclusion of the Sino-Soviet Non-Aggression Agreement on August 21, 1937, its aid to the Nationalist Government, as is widely known, has become intensified and overt.

Sian Incident and the Communists

Analysis thus far reveals that the Sian incident constitutes an important approach in establishing the essential significance of the China Affair. It is pertinent, therefore, to give a detailed account of how the Chinese Communists took advantage of the Sian coup

and of the consequent development of the Chinese situation.

This incident, which broke out on December 12, 1936, was settled in less than two months in two steps : the first with the return of the released Generalissimo to Nanking on December 25, 1936 and the second with the entry of the Nanking forces into the walled city of Sian on February 8, 1937. This apparently simple outline of the incident made many observers view it at that time as none other than a transaction between Chinese war-lords. Without clandestine activities of the Communist and popular front leaders, it might have remained so.

Originally, the Communist leaders were divided in their opinion as to how the incident could be used to advantage. One group held that the opportunity be seized for the immediate overthrow of the Nationalist Party and Government, taking the life of Chiang Kai-shek. This view, known as the internal war policy, was advocated by Chang Kuo-tao[2] and radicals then in Shanghai and in Sian, such as Miao Chien-chin and Sung Ming-chin and others, who were under the former's influence. The other group, led by Mao Tse-tung,[3] Chu Te[4] and Chou En-lai,[5] maintained that Chiang Kai-shek be pursuaded to accept the policy of association with the Soviet Union, collaboration with the Communists, and united resistance to Japan, a policy known as the peace policy. The Comintern, however, sided with the latter policy and sought to utilize Chiang Kai-shek in carrying on its sinister designs. Accordingly, Chou En-lai travelled to Sian, representing the peace group. The results of his activities there were the surrender of the Chinese Dictator to the Comintern and the Chinese Communists and the conversion of the popular front into the united national front against Japan. The latter proved to be an important move in preparation for the present hostilities.

Thus the eight so-called Chang-Yang proposals[6] presented to the

2. A Communist leader ; formerly Vice-Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Chinese Communist party.

3. President of the Central Soviet Government in China ; the most influential and popular of Communist leaders.

4. A member of the Central Executive Committee of the Party ; Commander-in-Chief of the Communist forces now reorganized as the 8th Route National Revolutionary Army.

5. A Communist leader now in Hankow representing the Party.

6. The eight proposals presented by Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang and General Yang Hu-cheng, leaders of the Northeastern Army, consist of: (1) reorganization of the Nanking Government and admission of all parties and cliques to shoulder the responsibility of national salvation ; (2) cessation of civil wars ; (3) immediate release of the leaders of patriotic bodies arrested in Shanghai ; (4) release of all political offenders throughout the country ; (5) safeguarding the freedom of the people to hold meetings and organize associations ; (6) emancipation of the patriotic movement of the masses ; (7) faithful observance of the last will of Dr. Sun Yat-sen ; (8) immediate convocation of a National Salvation conference. These proposals they pressed on Chiang Kai-shek to present officially to the Central Executive Committee meeting of the Kuomintang as his own programme.

captured Generalissimo at Sian functioned thereafter as the guiding principles directing the course of political developments in China. The historic proposals presented by the Communists to the 3rd Plenary Meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang on February 10, 1937 were the outcome of the aforementioned manœuvring of the Moscow organization and of the endeavours of Chinese Communist leaders.

These proposals were: (1) suspension of civil wars and concentration of national strength for united resistance to external enemies; (2) freedom of speech, assembly and organization, and release of political prisoners; (3) convocation of a congress of all parties, military groups and organizations in order to concentrate all human resources for carrying out the salvation of the country; (4) immediate accomplishment of the preparatory work for a war of resistance against Japan; (5) improvement of the living conditions of the people at large. These proposals were supplemented by the following pledges concerning alterations of the Communist policies conditional on the Nationalists' determining national policies along the lines of the proposals. The pledges were: (1) cessation of civil warfare against Nationalist Armies; (2) changing the Soviet Government into the Government of the Special Region of the Republic of China, and the Red Army into the National Revolutionary Army under the control of the Central Government and its Military Affairs council; (3) adoption and enforcement of a thoroughly democratic system of universal suffrage within the areas coming under the jurisdiction of the Government of the Special Region; (4) cessation of the policy of expropriating landed property; (5) carrying out of the programme of the united national front against Japan. Thereupon the Government and the Party at Nanking, both of which were under the restraint of the eight Chang-Yang proposals, made public their intention to admit the Communists to their camp at the 3rd Plenary Meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Party which began five days later, provided that the latter carried out the four major terms listed below. The conditions were: (1) abolition of the Red Army; (2) dissolution of the Soviet Government; (3) cessation of Communist propaganda; (4) discontinuance of the class struggle. Faithful observance of the Sanmin Principles[7] was also added to the above conditions as had been stated on former occasions.

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7. The Three Peoples' Principle laid down by the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen as the basic principles of the policies and programmes of the Kuomintang. They may be roughly summarized as: (1) emancipation of the Chinese people; (2) establishment of political rights of the people; (3) establishment of the economic and social life of the people.

The reaction of the Communists to these conditions was precisely as had been expected. As a matter of fact, there were to be no conditions that could not be agreed to by them. For the Chinese Communist Party, after the adoption of the new strategy of 1935, was to all intents and purposes a new organization, and the Soviet Union or the Comintern, the real power behind, was determined, at all costs, to gain China over to its side. Consequently, negotiations for collaboration between the two camps were successfully started at Sian between their representatives.

The fact, however, cannot be overlooked that in those four months after the 3rd Plenary Meeting, the only thing the two parties did by way of carrying out the terms of collaboration was cessation of military operations against the Red forces on the part of the Nanking Government. Both parties were apparently kept busy trying to prevail upon opposition within their respective camps; that is to say, the organization of the national front against Japan has been on the way but not quite completed as yet. In the meantime, however, action was taken by impatient officers and men of the 29th Army in North China. And this incident served as an impetus for accelerating collaboration and alignment of the two camps against Japan. Accordingly, political offenders were released and the reorganization of the Red Army was effected as proposed by the Communists.

Thus the 8th Route National Revolutionary Army came into being on August 22, 1937, as an integral part of the Nationalist forces against Japan. General Chu Te and General Peng Te-huai were appointed commander-in-chief and vice-commander respectively on August 25th. On September 22nd, the Communists sent a statement from Yenan, Shensi Province, pledging and calling for simple-hearted cooperation and united resistance to Japan, and the Kuomintang made public on the following day an informal statement of response in the name of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, thereby publicly declaring the completion of the Nationalist-Communist collaboration. It was just nine months after the occurrence of the Sian revolt.

Participation in Present Hostilities

At the time of reorganization of the Red Army, its main force under direct command of Generals Chu Te and Peng Te-huai, which was 50,000 strong, was concentrated in an area to the west of Taiyüan. On the Shanghai front a force of 10,000 strong, under command of General Ho Lung,[8] was concentrated in the northeastern part,

8. A member of the Central Executive Committee of the Chinese Soviet Government; a well-known and popular general of the Red Army.

belonging to the 4th Route Army and forces of about the same strength, under command of Generals Hsiang Ying[9] and Chen I, in the southern part. There was also a force under General Chang Ting-cheng on the Fukien-Kwantung border, which was reorganized as a part of the 57th Division. Besides these, there were forces which had not been reorganized. One was a force under Liu Ying on the Chekiang-Fukien-Anhwei-Kiangsi border; others, that under General Fu Chiu-tao on the Kiangsi-Hunan border, that under Kao Chun-ting on the Hupei-Anhwei-Honan border, and that of 10,000 strong at the Communist original base in northern Shensi Province. Of all these forces, which total some 100,000, 75 per cent have been reorganized into the Nationalist Government Army.

Achievements of the Communist forces after their participation in the current hostilities, though exaggerated by Chinese propaganda which has mostly been in the hands of Communist agents, have scarcely been noticeable. It is quite natural that armed forces as poorly equipped as they are should prove to be of insignificant military strength in modern warfare. The Communists do not intend for their armed strength to be impaired by hard fighting. The 8th Route Army has never taken active part, therefore, in any major battles, since participating in engagements at Pinghsingkuan, Niangtzekuan[10] and Hsinkowchen in Shansi Province in September and October last year. They are indulging in guerrilla warfare, which forms their speciality together with propaganda.

Thus the fighting strength of the main force of the Communist Army, though not originally formidable, has largely been preserved.

The chief Communist contribution to the Chinese resistance to Japan is propaganda, which is in reality an essential part of modern warfare. Their activities along that line preceding and following the incident near Marco Polo Bridge have already been reviewed. Their activities known as the "work for soldiers," however, is worth noting in this connection as illustrating how educational institutions and intellectual classes have been mobilized for Communist propaganda. This work for soldiers was conducted by members of the Chinese Communist Youth League and students with Chinghua, Chiaotung and Peking Universities in Peking and Fulun School in Tientsin as bases of their activities. Their leaders were Professors Tao Hsi-sheng and Shang Chung-i and Liu Yuan-ju, wife of the latter. The chief objective of their activities, as previously stated,

9. One of the most active Communist leaders who has held important positions in the Party and the Army such as Vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Party and Commander of the OGPU.

10. A famous pass on the border of Hopei and Shansi Provinces.

was the 29th Army, which was responsible for the North China Incident.

Communist activities following the outbreak of hostilities in influencing men and women in all walks of life to set up organizations for the purpose of promoting "war of resistance," "national salvation," "supporting soldiers," "wartime activities and services," "activities at the front," and "activities for doing away with traitors" have also constituted an important phase of their propaganda. As a result, over 120 such organizations came into being in Shanghai alone during the period of four months after the outbreak. Their fields include the cultural, educational, religious, and industrial; their constituencies take in almost all circles of society, including women and even children. Among them are found such outstanding names as: Kuo Mo-jo,[11] Mao Tun,[12] Chang Nai-Chi,[13] Tsou Tao-fen,[14] Cheng Chen-to,[15] Shih Liang,[16] Wang Hsiao-lai,[17] Sung Ching-ling,[18] Ho Hsiang-ning.[19] Yang Hu,[20] Tu Yueh-sheng,[21] Pan Kung-chan,[22] Chen Shao-yu.[23] Of these organizations, the Association for Supporting Resistance to Enemies is the most influential.

Methods of Communist propaganda have mostly been through publications, lectures (including radio broadcasts), pictures, songs, various behind-the-line activities, popular education, and campaigns for defence and other funds. As for the organs for propaganda, the Chiuwangjihpao (the National Salvation Daily) is representative. Cartoons and illustrated magazines have also been popular.

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11. A famous leftist writer; was in exile in Japan when the present conflict started; at present Chief Secretary, Political Training Bureau of the Grand Headquarters of the Nationalist Government.

12. The pen-name of Shen Yen-ping, one of the representative writers of present-day China.

13. Formerly a banker; at present the foremost leader of the National Salvation movement; one of the seven leaders of the popular front.

14. One of the seven leaders of the popular front.

15. A writer; formerly a professor of Yenching University.

16. A lawyer; one of the seven leaders of the popular front.

17. A prominent member of the Chekiang financial clique.

18. Madam Sun Yat-sen, elder sister of Madam Chiang Kai-shek and T. V. Soong; a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang; represents the extreme left group of the Party.

19. Widow of the late Liao Chung-kai; a member of the Executive Committee of the Kuomintang.

20. Commander of the Constabulary and Garrison forces in Shanghai at the time of the outbreak of the hostilities there; a leader of the Blue Shirts, a Fascist group within the Kuomintang.

21. A Shanghai banker; head of the Ching Pan, a famous gang or secret terrorist organization.

22. A former head of the Social Welfare Bureau of the Shanghai Municipal Government.

23. Formerly a leader of the extreme left group of the Kuomintang; at present the most important leader of the Chinese Communists, framer of their theories and policies.

Historical Background

Success of the new tactics in a few years as has been described in the foregoing may be a thing almost incredible to those who are not familiar with the historical background of the present Far Eastern policy of the Moscow Government. The initiation of its movement for Bolshevizing China dates back in reality to the Karakhan[24] Statement of July 25, 1919. Having failed in the movement in Europe, the Communists turned attention to the Orient, selecting China as their immediate objective. They saw in China a rising tide of nationalistic and anti-imperialistic movements, a condition which was highly favourable for Communist propaganda. The above-mentioned statement of Ambassador Karakhan declaring the abolition of unequal treaties and abandonment of rights and interests to which the Soviet Government succeeded was a move designed to regain the confidence of the Chinese Government and people with a view to facilitating its eastward penetration.

This programme worked well; and in the following year, 1920, the Chinese Communist Party or the Chinese branch of the Third International was organized. Formation of the united front for the national revolution in collaboration with the Kuomintang was the second step. Although this precarious union was short-lived, the organization of labourers and farmers for Communist purposes resulted in the creation of the Chinese Red armies and Soviet areas, developing finally into the Chinese Soviet Republic. Against this State within the State, the Central Government waged several wars with the result that the former was brought to the point of collapse. The Communists, however, regained their power and influence which has a background of 17 years, with the capture of the dictator of the Nationalist Government. Thus they are now directing all anti-Japanese forces in China in action against Japan; they are driving China to self-destruction.

24. Lef Mikhailovitch Karakhan, a Soviet diplomat who represented the Soviet Union when the Soviet-Japanese Agreement was signed at Peking on January 20, 1925.

PRESENT UNEMPLOYMENT

DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE

CERTAIN branches of industry in Japan are now hard hit, while industries supplying war materials, since the outbreak of hostilities in China in July, 1937, have made rapid development. Industries manufacturing goods for export and articles classed as luxuries have suffered greatly, what with the cessation of trade with China, the lack of ships' space and the practice of thrift and economy by the nation. The number of the unemployed has increased markedly, although in the early months of the conflict the situation was somewhat alleviated by the great demand for labour in the manufacture of war supplies and related industries, by the partial revival of trade with China following the establishment of new Governments in North and Central China, and by the activity of the employment bureaus.

Unemployment Caused by Mobilization of Materials

In view of the amount of commodities consumed and destroyed in modern warfare, an adequate supply of commodities is an essential condition of successful military operations. At the Cabinet meeting of June 23rd, the Government decided on a revised material mobilization plan, which purports to effect more vigorously the adjustment of supply of goods to this huge demand. On the 29th of the same month, laws were put into operation restricting the manufacture, processing and marketing of various important materials for internal consumption. As a result, an increasing number of factories and concerns manufacturing or distributing these commodities have since been compelled to suspend or close their business.

Special Nature of the Present Unemployment

It may be pointed out that the present unemployment differs materially, for instance, from the unemployment which occurred in Europe in the wake of the World War. In the post-War period in Europe, unemployment came as a result of the depression that came over the world; and the remedial measures then consisted chiefly in promoting public works so as to afford employment to the jobless,

in encouraging emigration and in providing facilities for training for trades.

The present labour situation in this country has been brought about wholly by the enforcement of the national policy. Side by side with the business depression attributable to this influence, one may notice industries prospering by virtue of their importance in this national emergency. Strangely enough, there is a lack of labour in one direction with unemployment in the other. In these circumstances, it is necessary that strenuous efforts be made to check the unemployment. In the first place, existing occupations must be maintained. Where this cannot be done, changes in employment must be effected. As business is now on a wartime basis, any change of trade should be made, as the phrase goes, along the line of national policies, namely, in the direction of war-supplies manufacture, of export trade or the manufacture or distribution of "substitute" articles. People should, therefore, be trained and recruited for the trades and industries whose prosperity is desirable and essential in the present emergency. This method of approach to the problem of unemployment has the merit, at once, of expanding Japan's capacity to produce and striking at the very root of unemployment.

Creation of the Unemployment Commission

Organization of the Unemployment Commission was promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 507 of July 16, 1938. According to this Ordinance, the Commission is composed of the Central and Prefectural Unemployment Commissions, whose duty is to investigate the more important matters concerning measures to cope with the situation. The Central Commission is presided over by the Minister of Welfare and has a membership of not more than forty, while the prefectural bodies are under the direction of prefectural governors and have memberships of not more than thirty persons. In either case, additional members may be appointed. In fact, the Central Commission is composed of forty regular and 17 special members, and includes high officials of Government departments, including Vice-Ministers, the Vice-President of the Board of Planning, members of Parliament, 13 representatives of various industries, and 6 persons with technical knowledge and experience.

Stressing the urgency of the work of checking unemployment and administering relief, Marquis Koichi Kido, Minister of Welfare, made an inquiry at a meeting of the Central Unemployment Commission as to the measures to be taken for the cure and relief of the

unemployment that might arise in connection with the China Affair, particularly in consequence of the mobilization of materials. The Commission conducted a careful investigation and submitted a report to the Welfare Minister.

Résumé of the Report

This report consists of an introduction and the report itself which, again, is divided into three parts: (1) general measures, (2) prevention of unemployment, and (3) unemployment relief. While not neglecting the importance of inculcating upon the nation true appreciation and willing cooperation in the cure and prevention of unemployment, the report urges the Government to do its utmost to rid the country of unemployment or, where it is difficult for people to continue in their existing businesses, to guide and aid them in obtaining new employment.

I General Measures

(1) *Spiritual Guidance.* In line with the National Spiritual Mobilization movement, persons engaged in prosperous industries should be exhorted to use more self-restraint and denial to make positive efforts for the cure of unemployment. Persons whose business is depressed are encouraged to persevere and work out their own salvation.

(2) *Relief and protection for the families whose members have fallen in action.* Where these families or the soldiers returning from the front are in danger of losing their employment, particular care and protection should be administered to them as far as is feasible.

(3) *Organization of Commissions* Central and Prefectural Commissions are to be created whose duty is to study measures to cope with the existing situation and to put them into operation.

II Measures for the Prevention of Unemployment

(1) *Continuation or Change of Employment.* The continuation of business is of course the most effective way for combating unemployment, but, where this is impossible, a change of personnel should be made to the war-supplies industries, to export trades or to the manufacture of the goods to be used as substitutes for mobilized materials. Such changes may be effected by adjusting the allotment of orders for goods. Business orders emanating from Government

departments, including the army and navy, may possibly be allotted so that the weakened businesses may share in them. Prosperous industries should be induced to allow the depressed industrialists to do the work of manufacturing simple machine parts or to allot to them orders for primary materials. Depressed businesses should be supplied with substitute materials and, where necessary, the distribution of these materials should be put under control. Research institutions and laboratories may be mobilized; inventions and research work in the manufacture and use of substitute articles should be encouraged.

(2) Improvement must be made in the technical skill and business management of small and medium-sized tradespeople. For this purpose, the Central Unemployment Commission recommends that they be grouped to form associations, which will be provided with facilities such as receiving orders and purchasing substitute materials. Here, the people will also be given instruction and training in technical arts and business management.

(3) To enable small and medium-sized tradespeople in time of depression to effect changes to the war-supplies industries and other prosperous trades, it will be necessary to supply them with machines and materials and to give them technical training, which can best be done when people are grouped in associations.

(4) Loans will be granted to the associations referred to above and to owners of businesses.

(5) Advisory organs giving counsels on commercial and industrial questions will be created.

(6) In industries where there is danger of unemployment, the discharge of employees should be averted as far as possible by the use of such means as shortening hours and increasing rest-days. Where discharges become unavoidable, they should be made gradually, having regard to individual circumstances of the workers.

III Unemployment Relief Measures

(1) *Assistance in Finding Employment.* Employment bureaus should be in close touch with all fields of employment. The labour exchanges should require proprietors of factories to report to them in advance the number of workmen to be dismissed, the time and order of dismissal, and should then make efforts to get people employed in war-supplies and other industries where labour is much in demand. Where the employed have to travel to the place of employment, travelling and other expenses may be advanced, if deemed necessary.

(2) Prosperous industries are urged to give employment to more people. The war-supplies and other prosperous industries are urged to increase the number of employees by adopting the shift system and by making conditions of employment easier.

(3) The training facilities of employment bureaus should be enlarged, while public and private labour exchanges should be induced to provide facilities for training in crafts. Where feasible, persons may be sent to private factories to undergo training and instruction.

(4) Public and private bodies will be asked to cooperate in giving instruction and training in technical matters to persons who, on account of age or previous occupation, have difficulty in adapting themselves to new employment.

(5) Household industries must be encouraged among the unemployed and their families, especially in the line of war supplies. These industries may be supervised by the tradespeople's associations, which will regulate the transactions, distribute materials and train the workers.

(6) Persons falling in category (4), described above, should, when individual circumstances favour it, be advised to return to farms to till the land ; they may be aided in doing so.

(7) When persons are capable of emigrating, they should be encouraged to do so. Where necessary, training schools may be established for them.

(8) Both Government and public offices and enterprises should endeavour to absorb unemployed workers. The Central Unemployment Commission also recommends that work for the relief of the unemployed be provided in such fields as colonization and forestry, which are not affected by the mobilization of materials.

(9) Organizations for social work, the District Visitors group, and other welfare agencies may be enlisted to assist the unemployed who cannot otherwise find occupations, earn livelihoods and receive medical care.

(10) For all of the relief measures mentioned in this report of the Central Unemployment Commission, the Government may, when deemed necessary, provide appropriations and make advances of the required funds.

POLICE ACTIVITIES IN THE PRESENT EMERGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

IN reviewing the activities of the police since the beginning of the present hostilities in China, their primary purpose of preserving peace and order within the country must not be lost sight of. Yet, in addition to the customary work of policing, there are many police activities in Japan which, in a special manner, reflect the emergency. Preparing the nation for possible enemy air raids, guarding against political, economic and ideological plots and agitations, and enforcing the changes made necessary in placing national industry on a wartime basis, these are functions of the Japanese police peculiar to the present situation.

Organization of Police

The central authority of the police organization in Japan is the Minister for Home Affairs. The local authorities are the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police Board (Tokyo) and prefectural governors who supervise police activities in their respective jurisdictions. The head of the Bureau of Police in the Home Office and the chiefs of police in the prefectural governments assist the central and local authorities in police administration.

Sections in the Bureau of Police are devoted to police affairs, crime prevention, peace preservation, foreign affairs, publications, and the recently established economic control. Aerial defence is conducted by a section within the Bureau of Planning in the Home Office. Police divisions in prefectural governments generally include sections devoted to police affairs, peace preservation, crime, hygiene and factories. The Metropolitan Police Board has a secretariate and sections on police affairs, crime, peace preservation, hygiene and fire prevention. Prefectural governments and the Metropolitan Board alike have special higher police[1] within their ranks. Prefectures having large cities under their jurisdiction generally include police sections for giving information, aerial defence, economic control, communications and fire prevention.

The number of police officers in Japan at present is about 75,000

1. The function of the special higher police is to take charge of ideational, educational and religious matters.

and the total amount of police expenditures both of the central and local governments is approximately one hundred million yen annually. Among the police officers, quite a number have been called to service in the army and navy and not a few have already been killed at the front. To fill the depleted police ranks, full attention has been given, but a considerable shortage of men still exists. The police force, which is much weaker than in times of peace, is required to perform increased duties under the present emergency; hence its task is a difficult one. And yet the police officers, fully cognizant of the extraordinary hardships of the men on the China front, are wholeheartedly executing their duties without proper sleep and rest. In the meantime, drastic readjustments in the management of police affairs are being made to consolidate police personnel and activities on a wartime basis. Special efforts are also being made to eradicate the evils of officialdom such as adherence to minor details, emphasis on mere trifles, and the like, thus taking advantage of the present emergency to make a general house cleaning. And to deal effectively with the important police matters relating to the China Affair, the Japanese police are endeavouring to overcome the deficiency in numbers by a renewed morale and by the rationalization of police affairs.

Prevention of Crimes

For a time following the outbreak of the China Affair, there was a general decrease in the number of crimes, evidently indicating the intense moral earnestness of the people. But it has been regrettable to note the appearance of crimes peculiar to wartime conditions such as frauds and seizures under the disguise of being called to the colours, or in relation to the national defence contributions, or under the mask of securing relief for the families of the men at the front and those killed and wounded in action, thus stamping under foot the genuine sense of patriotism among the people on the home front. Juvenile offences and those caused by mental perversions seem to be on the increase. Recently, cases of robbery have shown a rise in number, while crimes in general, which for a time had tended to decrease, are again showing an upward trend. The degree of violence in cases of murder and the like is becoming greater.

In this situation, police and detectives all over the country are giving their primary attention to crime prevention. In consonance with the National Spiritual Mobilization movement, they are striving not only to keep delinquent youths, vagrants and gamblers under control, but to contribute toward the rejuvenation of public morals

by paying heed to the cultivation of the habits of industry and economy.

The Economic Police

The work of the so-called economic police is one of the most important duties facing the police force. From the standpoint of ensuring war materials, extending and strengthening productive power, and of improving the international balance of trade, various laws and ordinances concerning the economic life of the people have recently been instituted and put in force. To accomplish the purpose of the Japanese action in China and to maintain peace and order in the country, it devolves upon the entire police to assure the execution of the above laws and ordinances; and to this end lately a new form of policing, namely, the economic police system has been established. This new police force of course intends to check all violations of measures relating to economic control, while it will do its utmost to devise measures necessary for the prevention of economic crimes, such as making the real meaning of the above laws and ordinances thoroughly known among the people, watching their economic life and activities, and giving them proper warnings on the matter.

Nevertheless the real purpose of the said regulations can in no way be attained without the intelligent cooperation of the people. Such cooperation is an absolute prerequisite to the accomplishment of the national policy under the current emergency, and any violation of the laws and ordinances must be fully recognized as an unpatriotic act deserving severe punishment. It is therefore highly desirable that the people do everything to prevent all violation and to avoid the dishonour of being punished for infringing upon the laws and ordinances in question.

Finally, with regard to the commodity prices which have an important bearing on the life of the people, the Government is establishing official prices, requiring all goods to be marked accordingly, and is taking other necessary measures in a most stringent way to restore ante-bellum economic conditions.

Special Higher Police

The special function of these police, widely known as ideational police, is to prevent and suppress every kind of social movement that attempts to destroy the foundation of the Japanese national polity or to disturb peace and order. Their importance in the maintenance

of peace and order in ordinary times is fully recognized, but in times of emergency, their work is vastly enhanced. In view of the fact that in modern war ideational warfare, such as circulating wild and groundless rumours, spreading news exaggerating the evils of war to create anti-military and anti-war sentiments, etc., causes great havoc by disturbing the minds of the people on the home front, the special higher police are giving minute attention to prevent all such evils.

Since the outbreak of the China Affair, there have been many wild rumours circulated among the people; but they are due not so much to the plots of unfriendly nations as to carelessness on the part of those who wish to demonstrate that they are in the possession of inside information. Among the rumours thus circulated have been some of a very sinister character which cannot be ignored. The atmosphere created by such carelessly circulated rumours offers a fine soil for the growth of enemy plots. Consequently, the higher police intend to lead these thoughtless people to reflect upon their errors by making them understand the true significance of the present Affair and the real motives of Japan in it. However, the police are dealing strictly with those circulating stories of a heinous nature; such persons will be eliminated.

Control of the Press

The place of the press as an essential factor in cultural development of a nation is widely known. And its power and influence for determining the destiny of the nation in time of war was clearly exemplified during the World War. Accordingly, the police authorities in Japan are dealing with the publication not only of matters pertaining to general welfare and morality (as is done in peace-time) but also with news items which have special connection with military and diplomatic secrets. Public enthusiasm is gradually developing for cooperating with the Government along the line of national policy, yet there are those who often act contrary to national purposes. The essential purpose of controlling the press is, on the one hand, to achieve absolute control over the expression of ideas contrary to national purposes whether written carelessly or maliciously, and, on the other, to stimulate and foster the expression of ideas that will contribute toward the building up of a new culture in Japan.

Aerial Defence

The Aerial Defence Law has recently been enacted to prepare against enemy attacks from the air, to protect lives and to prevent

the destruction of resources. In accordance with the provisions of the Law, many air drills comprising air surveillance, communications, giving of warnings, control of lights, fire-fighting, and protection against poison gas have taken place. The police have been active in these drills ; they are pointing out to the public that the best protection against air attack consists in having the entire nation carry out, as soldiers of defence, the idea expressed in the phrase, " We protect our country with our own hands."

Measures Against Espionage

Police measures against espionage are intended to defend Japan against the intelligence plots, propaganda and similar activities by the agents of foreign countries. Such measures are sufficiently important in peace-time ; in this time of emergency they have direct bearing upon the outcome of the hostilities in China. The particular emphasis now placed on anti-espionage activities by the police is, therefore, both natural and right.

World attention has been focused on Japan since the beginning of the struggle in China. The activities of foreign agents are not being confined to military affairs ; they are being extended to cover political, economic and other matters. Certain quarters are believed to be interested in causing disturbances among the Japanese people, in alienating Japan from her friendly nations, in spreading news unprofitable to Japan, and in every other form of anti-Japanese plottings and machinations. Since modern war represents a synthesized warfare in which all the material resources, sciences, and ideological tendencies of the nation have important functions to perform, it is logical that the range of espionage has been widely extended ; its aims and methods have made phenomenal development. It is the duty of the Japanese police to deal with these sinister activities and by constant study and endeavour to expose and interrupt foreign agents so that national secrets may be protected and peace and order within the nation be preserved.

To develop the necessary cooperation of the general public, anti-espionage exhibits and other educational institutes as well as publications are being used. It is felt that by observance of a little care the heedless words and actions that result in the divulging of important national secrets can successfully be checked. However, it is extremely undesirable and unwise to treat every foreigner as a spy or to give bad impressions and cause unpleasant feeling to *bona fide* guests from abroad. The Japanese police have been instructed to pay close attention to this point.

Measures for Maintaining Public Morals

Nothing is of more importance at the current time than the maintenance and improvement of the moral life of the nation which is the foundation of national strength and prosperity. Here, the police are naturally depending, to a considerable extent, upon the exercise of self-control on the part of individuals and upon the power of education and training. But in so far as public morals may be improved by regulations, the police are empowered to act.

Since the outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities, the Department of Home Affairs has gradually adjusted and strengthened measures controlling the morals and customs of every part of the country in order to carry out national measures at a uniform pace. But it is extremely difficult to bring about the desired purification of customs and reform of public morals merely by relying on police power, and dependence upon this power alone will inevitably lead to inconsistencies and disagreements. The police authorities are therefore endeavouring to establish close correlation and harmony between themselves and school authorities, public organizations, and various social-educational bodies. In this way, a continual improvement in public morals may be expected.

Cooperation in Home-Front Activities

The influence of the home front upon the soldiers in action in China is of well-known importance. Since the beginning of hostilities, the Government has established a system of military aids and is making such aids one of the objectives of the National Spiritual Mobilization movement in order to afford satisfactory support to the families of soldiers. In the actual work of giving the proper support and assistance to the families, the police can cooperate to good advantage, making sure that the assistance is given in a thorough and fair manner. The police are regularly in close contact with the people; with police stations and sub-stations everywhere, the police form the network of a great, public organization.

In deciding upon the necessary relief to be administered, including living expenses, medical and employment assistance, to the families of soldiers killed at the front, the police and city, town and village authorities are working in cooperation with the District Visitors in order to give satisfaction. In rural communities, this work is actually being carried on by three parties, the village chief, the primary school principal and the police officer. In many cases, the police officer, aside from merely giving material aid as he makes his

daily rounds, makes a special point of calling on bereaved families, extending solicitations and becoming advisers in family matters. On record are cases in which police officers have written letters to the front on the request of rural families. Many are the duties of the policeman on the home front : he assists in the send-offs given to soldiers departing for China ; he cares for and comforts the wounded and sick ; he reveals the appreciation of the nation to the men who return from service ; he is busy in countless other ways. In particular, when the nation has definitely adopted the policy of prolonged hostilities against China, the police are in the vanguard of all patriotic Japanese who are retaining their firm enthusiasm and are resolutely contributing toward the attainment of the ultimate purpose of the struggle.

READJUSTMENT OF RURAL DEBTS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

MEASURES for readjusting and refinancing rural debts in Japan have been functioning since August 1, 1933, when the Law Relating to the Rural Debts Readjustment Association came into force as approved at the 64th session of the Imperial Diet. The carrying out of this legislation has been a basic step in realizing the so-called economic regeneration of rural communities.[1] In marking the fifth anniversary of farm relief, therefore, it is fitting that past achievements made through the operation of this legislation be reviewed and plans for ensuring its consistent and efficient working be studied, with a view to its further promotion and popularization.

Since the outbreak of the China Affair, rural communities have not only sent large numbers of their men to the China front but have also loyally responded to the call for horses and materials of war, gladly offering even what has been essential to their livelihood. Under these circumstances, nothing is more important than the serious, united endeavours on the part of groups and communities for tiding over the current emergency and for working out plans in preparation for the restoration of peace. Accordingly, the readjustment and refinancing of debts, which form the fundamental economic problem relating to rural communities, becomes a matter of prime importance and urgency.

Accumulation of Rural Debts

According to an investigation conducted by the Department of Finance in 1912, two years before the World War, rural debts in Japan totalled some 750,000,000 yen. Of that amount some 40 per cent represented individual loans and some 20 per cent those of money lenders while 65 per cent were high-interest loans of 10 per cent and more. This shows that members of the rural population have unavoidably resorted to irrational methods of financing and consequently have suffered from the terms most unfavourable to themselves. This condition of rural debts, however, underwent a

1. Rural communities are classified in Japan under the three categories of agricultural, mountain and fishing villages. The term "rural communities" in this article stands, in most cases, for such villages inclusive.

remarkable change with the outbreak of the World War which caused the national economic system of Japan to develop rapidly and her rural economic system to expand suddenly. This economic expansion, significant as it was, resulted in an accelerated increase in the amount of rural debts.

Then came the world-wide depression and the derivative panic in agriculture, following the close of the War. This slump, unprecedented in scope and intensity, broke down the economic life of Japan's rural population, leaving in consequence a huge amount of accumulated debts, estimated at between 5,000,000,000 and 6,000,000,000 yen. Unquestionably, such a burden constitutes the cancer which not merely prevents the growth of the rural economic system but saps its strength.

Causes for accumulation of this stupendous debt may not be attributed only to the war boom and to the post-war slump; there have been major and minor causes and circumstances contributing in various ways and degrees to the creation of such a state of affairs. In order to plan for the prevention of further accumulation of debts, it is necessary that those causes and circumstances should be studied and analyzed and that preventive measures such as price policy directed at essential agricultural, forestry and aquatic products, adjustment of farm land, prevention of calamities, improvement of financial and medical facilities, and initiation of the insurance system should be carefully planned and efficiently carried out. As an immediate measure, however, the chronic cancer in Japanese agricultural economy must be operated on.

It has been said that the first and most effective step for reviving and promoting the welfare of the rural populations is to promote their spiritual life. Nevertheless, the fact cannot be overlooked that heavy-laden with hopeless debts, farmers only envisage insecurity and darkness in their future lots. This depressed state of mind in turn reacts upon their material life, creating an atmosphere of decadence and inertness in rural communities. The first step in bringing about their economic regeneration must be to frame definite, feasible plans for readjustment of their debts which can be carried out side by side with improvement and rationalization of their business and domestic affairs so that they can work and strive with faith in a better future. It is with this objective in view that legislation with regard to the debts readjustment association was established and carried out in 1933.

The Debts Readjustment Association Law

The Law Relating to the Rural Debts Readjustment Association

is designed to encourage the organization of debt-readjustment associations on the basis of the principles of neighbourliness and mutual help, with a view to readjusting rural debts by carrying out plans for repayment of debts and economic regeneration worked out by the associations. The Law is not designed merely to give aid to debtors nor merely to protect creditors but to assist those who earnestly and sincerely strive to achieve economic regeneration. Creditors are therefore called upon to cooperate by making certain sacrifices and moderating original terms, in sympathetic consideration of the debtors' unfortunate circumstances, in appreciation of their sincerity, and above all in view of national purposes to reconstruct and strengthen rural communities. In the operation of this system, care must be taken not to foster the spirit of relying on others nor to promote the trend of neglecting one's duties, and, simultaneously, not to fall into the evil of merely protecting creditors. Sincerity and the spirit of mutual concession are, indeed, the underlying factors in the successful operation of the system.

Organization of the association on the geographical basis of a community where economic and other phases of everyday life are coherently interwoven is the step essential for maintaining the above-stated genius of the institution. The system of compensation for losses in connection with the special financing of the readjustment funds is a governmental measure for facilitating the operation of the undertaking. By this system the Government as well as municipalities are to share in bearing the losses which may be incurred. The Government is also providing funds at low interest for the undertaking.

Financing Funds and Compensating Losses

A few years of operation of the Law Relating to the Rural Debts Readjustment Association showed that to employ municipalities alone as organs for financing funds was not meeting the actual needs of rural communities. The Law was therefore revised in part on the approval of the 71st session of the Diet (1937) and separate legislation concerning special financing of the readjustment funds and compensation for losses was instituted. As a result, the Central Chest for Cooperative Societies, financing banks such as the Hypothec Bank of Japan, Agricultural and Industrial Banks, and the Hokkaido Colonial Bank have been designated, besides municipalities, as special financing organs. At the same time, the raising of the maximum amount to the individual beneficiary to between 3,000 and 5,000 yen and other improvements have been made in accord-

ance with actual conditions in rural communities.

The revised and enlarged system, which has been in force since December 1, 1937, authorized the establishment of debt-readjustment associations, or judicial persons engaging in the undertaking of readjusting debts, for the period from December 1, 1937 to July 31, 1946 as well as the financing of 500,000,000 yen as a debt-readjustment fund for the period from the above date to November 30, 1947. Thus, it is designed that plans be worked out and carried out for readjusting debts amounting to 1,300,000,000 yen which have been contracted on irrational terms. With regard to subsidy for covering and indemnity against the losses the Government is authorized to disburse up to 120,000,000 yen.

According to the data received up to June 30th, the number of cities, towns and villages where debt-readjustment associations have been established amounts to 2,514; that of the associations, 7,072 (of which 5,130 are of unlimited liability, 1,933 of reserve liability, and 9 credit cooperatives functioning as substitutes); and that of members, 220,000. Furthermore, the associations that have already completed planning for repayment of debts and for economic regeneration with the funds financed through municipalities number 3,614, and the funds already supplied amount approximately to 34,000,000 yen, which has been supplied from the Government low interest funds. There are also six or seven associations that have been supplied with funds through the Central Chest for Cooperative Societies. These funds amount approximately to 500,000 yen. Financing through financing banks has just been started.

The Law for the Temporary Settlement of Rural Debts

Another measure recently adopted to promote the economic reconstruction of rural communities is the Law for the Temporary Settlement of Rural Debts which was approved at the 73rd session of the Diet and has been in force since June 20, 1938. This is an emergency law facilitating settlement of debts and realization of economic regeneration on behalf of families of soldiers killed or wounded in the China Affair. Although this emergency measure is closely related to that for the readjustment of rural debts in general, it does not necessarily require the establishment of debt-readjustment associations as in the case of the other measure. In view of the purpose for which this emergency step has been taken, the new legislation provides that the moderating of terms of contracts of debts, the forming of settlement plans and other matters necessary for the economic regeneration of debtors shall be taken

care of by Temporary Debt Settlement Commissions to be created by prefectures. With regard to subsidy for covering and indemnity against losses, their percentages are to be twice as large as those of the ordinary rural debts readjustment system. Through the careful, efficient operation of this emergency measure, it is hoped that economic stabilization and reconstruction of families of the war dead and wounded will speedily be realized.

Economic Regeneration is the Objective

The first step in this undertaking of readjustment of rural debts is to organize the debt-readjustment association through which individual members are to be given funds according to their respective economic-regeneration and debt-repayment plans. Once, however, those plans have been established and funds advanced accordingly, the united endeavours of the entire community are called for in order to carry them out faithfully. The association is, therefore, an economic-regeneration association in reality, although it is a debt-readjustment association in name. The ideal is that the association is to be perfectly identified with the community.

The important role of cooperative societies as the central economic organs of rural communities is well known. It is fortunate that the recent enlargement in the provisions of debt-readjustment legislation has authorized credit cooperatives to act as financing organs for the undertaking of rural economic reconstruction. This enlargement in the usefulness of credit cooperatives will certainly be a great asset to the undertaking. On the other hand, expansion and strengthening of cooperatives is possible only when the economic life of their members is augmented. As a matter of fact, debt-readjustment associations are mostly practising the rule of depositing a certain fixed percentage of the incomes of their members at the harvest seasons with credit cooperatives so that completion of the repayment programme may be ensured. Such an intimate relationship between the two associations is expected to go a long way toward achievement of the purpose of the legislation.

According to an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Economic Regeneration, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, the debts contracted by middle- and small-scale farmers amounted, at the end of August, 1935, approximately to 4,100,000,000 yen. Of these debts 30 per cent represents those contracted at the interest of 10 per cent or more. Thus they are disbursing a fabulous amount as interest on their debts, an amount of money exceeding the 300,000,000 yen which is being spent annually on chemical fertilizers by the whole

agricultural population. To lighten and readjust such irrational, unbearable economic burdens now placed upon the rural population, which really forms the backbone of the national life of Japan, are essential steps in consolidating the home front under the current emergency and in preparing for its aftermath.

JAPANESE PUBLICATIONS UNDER THE CHINA AFFAIR

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

SINCE the outbreak of the China Affair, the number of various publications in Japan has tended to decrease. Books and pamphlets have fallen off by a little over six per cent; the number of newspapers and magazines has declined slightly. It is noteworthy, however, that newspapers and magazines which had constantly been increasing in number stopped their advance and that the rate of increase in the number of new magazines published under the Publication Law has dropped conspicuously. This trend must be regarded as due not so much to the China Affair directly as to the high price of paper, which began to rise in the spring of 1937, and to the recent increases in postal charges. The China Affair itself may be expected to affect Japanese publications more manifestly hereafter than up to the present time.

According to the statistics as of June, 1938, which classify books and pamphlets into ten categories according to the number of their varieties, school text books head the list. Text books had always been published in large numbers in Japan, but the figures in the present statistics are especially large because of the sweeping revisions made in the text books of secondary schools this spring. Next to text books in variety of publications come, in order, books on literature, education, economics, industries, languages, religion, politics, engineering and military affairs.

In the list of magazines, the organs of various organizations are credited with the largest variety of publications. These are followed by literary magazines (most of which are periodicals specializing in the 17-syllable *haiku* verse), trade journals, religious magazines, industrial magazines, journals of society, economics magazines, municipal and village reports, country journals and magazines giving medicinal information.

The publication of pamphlets began to decline in the early part of 1937 and their steady decrease under the China Affair has been very noticeable. Pamphlets surpassed books in variety of publications in 1936 but their figure for the year ending in June, 1938 is less than one-half of that reached in their peak year of 1936.

Statistics taken for the year beginning with the outbreak of the China Affair, in comparison with those compiled two years previously, show that the number of books published has increased

by almost 10 per cent, while the number of pamphlets has decreased by slightly more than 20 per cent. The latter decrease is accounted for by the wane in sales of what are termed ten-sen pamphlets. For the loss in popularity of these publications several reasons may be given: firstly, the *Weekly Report* published by the Bureau of Information, Prime Minister's Department, has proved better qualified to give intelligible accounts of current events; secondly, many of the political issues and general affairs hitherto dealt with in such publications have been automatically settled or liquidated through the organization of national life on a wartime basis; and thirdly, the public has found out that the ten-sen pamphlets tend to be poorly edited and not worth reading. This last reason has probably been most responsible for the failure of the ten-sen pamphlets.

Such facts as these may be insufficient to serve as a basis for passing judgment on Japanese publications. At least, it may be said that the present reader tends to prefer solid reading to sensational publications published from mercenary motives.

Another trend in the publishing business has been the number of books and pamphlets dealing directly with the China Affair. Such publications were numerous during the last three months of 1937, but their number has declined subsequently, particularly since March, 1938. For some time after the outbreak of the Affair, these volumes were mainly concerned with explanations of the conflict. As the hostilities have become enlarged into long-term warfare, publishers have naturally become more interested in the question of the aftermath of hostilities, how to help in reconstruction in the wake of war ravages and how Japan should proceed in the future. Publications which have increased during the past year in comparison with the preceding one include those dealing with: politics, military affairs, mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering, history and travel, sets of books called "libraries" are also increasing.

Similar trends are also noticeable in magazines. Magazine articles are tending more and more to deal with post-war measures and future national policies instead of being concerned largely with explanatory accounts of current developments. Among the different kinds of magazines, those specializing in economics, religion, education, history, electrical engineering, industries, military affairs, aviation, Japanese and Chinese calligraphy and local affairs have increased since July, 1937.

Ideological Trends

We have traced the influence of the China Affair on the number

of Japanese publications and their kinds. It is to be expected that this influence will increase in the future. Already, it must be admitted that the China Affair has become the largest single factor in directing the trend of publications. What, then, are the implications of the present changes in the publishing business?

Since the Manchurian Incident of 1931, Japan has experienced a rising tide of nationalism. This nationalism, together with the decline of communistic ideas, has formed a powerful trend in thinking circles, a trend accelerated with the development of the China Affair. Ascribable to this trend may be the police crusades carried out some time ago against the Popular Front, as well as the subsequent disorganization or conversion to the rightist camp of the leftist cultural organizations and the discontinuation of leftist newspapers and magazines.

As hostilities continue, this surge of nationalistic ideas is tending to pervade not only the fields of politics and economics but also the cultural fields such as history, religion, philosophy and the arts. There was much talk in 1937 as to what things are and what are not "Japanese." The establishment of a new Japanese culture is the discussion of the hour.

Along the same lines, we have been witnessing a renewed publication of studies in Japanese history, biographies of pioneer patriots and provincial histories, particularly since the outbreak of the China Affair. These attempts are calculated to contribute toward the inauguration of a new Japanese culture through fresh studies of the traditions of Japan.

The increase in publications devoted to engineering and industry is certain to stimulate scientific progress in this country and to result in the general diffusion of scientific knowledge among Japanese, although the present trend may primarily be a phenomenon attendant on the need of augmenting production to meet the requirements of war. Here, also, may be a part of the new Japanese culture.

The current armed conflict with China has aroused interest in Japan's position in the Orient and in the future of the Empire. The Japanese people are looking forward to the realization of their country's mission in the Orient through fresh reflections and studies on things Japanese. Naturally, current publications reflect this trend; a continued increase in the publication of serious and thought-provoking works may safely be anticipated.

SIANGCHENG
SHENKIU
MENGCHENG
TSIN PU R.R.
SUIPING
TAHO
JUNAN
HWAIYUAN
PENGPU
YINGCHOW
AN HWEI SHENG
KIOSHAN
SINTSAI
PIYUAN
MIYANG
HO NAN SHENG
YINGSHANG
FENGTAI
SHOWHSIEN
TIENKIAAN
CHENGYANGKUAN
SIHSIEN
TUNGPEH
KUSHIH
HWOKIU
HWAI NAN R.R.
SINYANG
KING HAN R.R.
LOSHAN
KWANGCHOW
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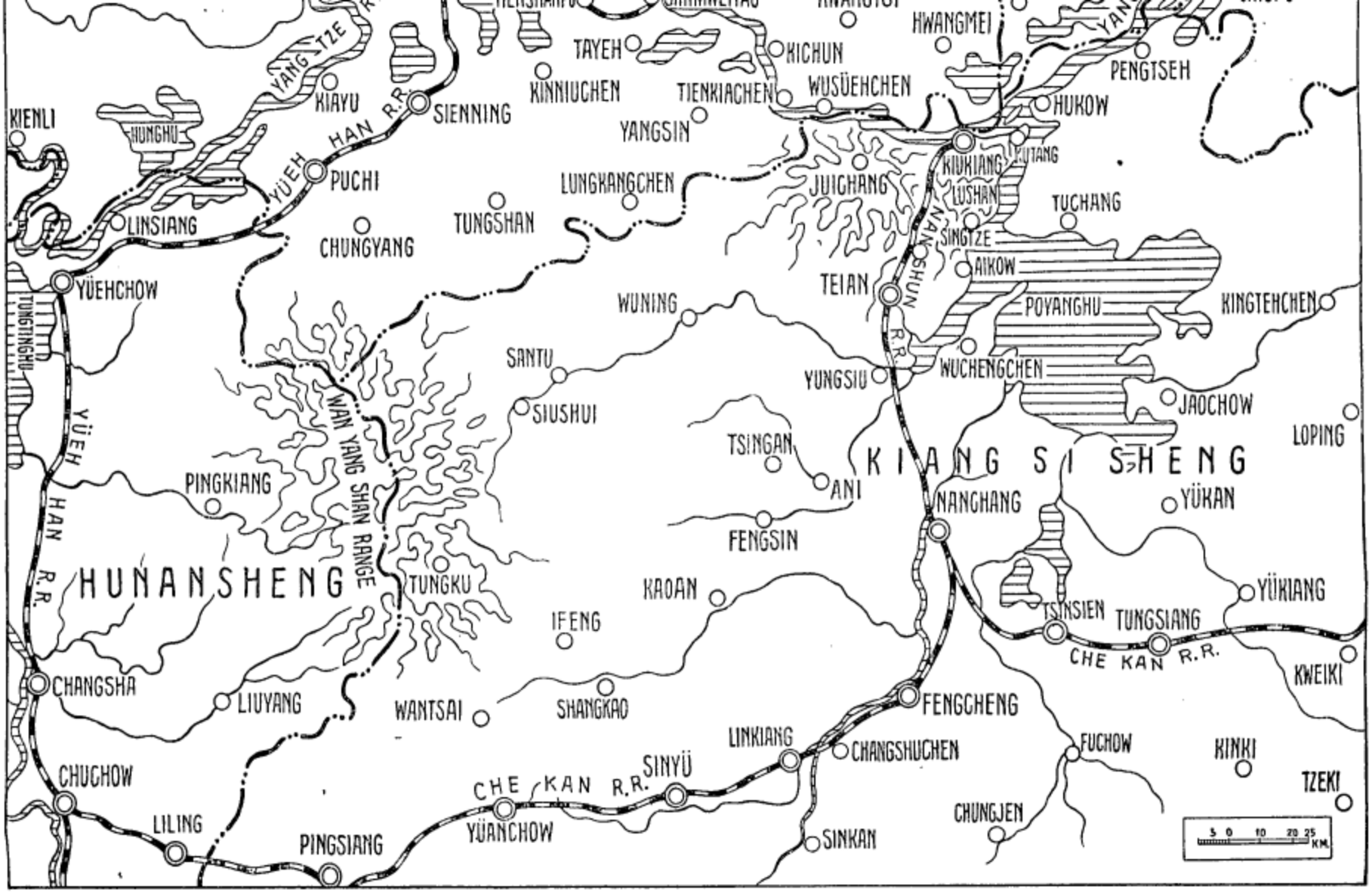
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TAYEH
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TIENKIACHEN
KICHUN
WUSÜEHCHEN
YANGSIN
HWANGMEI
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KIUKIANG
LUTANG
JUICHANG
LUSHAN
TUCHANG
SINGTZE
AIKOW
TEIAN
NAN CHUN R.R.
POYANGHU
KINGTEHCHEN
WUNING
SANTU
SIUSHUI
YUNGSIU
WUCHENGCHEN
JAOCHOW
LOPING
WAN YANG SHAN RANGE
YÜEH HAN R.R.
PINGKIANG
TSINGAN
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KIANG SI SHENG
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YÜKAN
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HUNANSHENG
TUNGKU
KAOAN
YÜKIANG
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TUNGSIANG
CHE KAN R.R.
KWEIKI
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SHANGKAO
FENGCHENG
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FUCHOW
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THE SITUATION IN CHINA

I

—ADVANCE OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY—

PRESS SECTION, WAR DEPARTMENT

Japanese forces are converging on Hankow from the north, south and east. Their pincer movement is being steadily tightened. The Chinese military authorities have established strong defence works at every vantage point, but the Japanese are taking fort after fort in rapid succession.

THE FRONT NORTH OF THE YANGTZE

From Hwangmei and Chienshan to Kwangtsi

The Japanese garrison at Hwangmei was attacked by about 600 Chinese soldiers armed with mountain-guns and trench-mortars on August 14th, who, however, were repulsed leaving about 100 dead in addition to 12 taken prisoner. The Japanese capture included 8 machine-guns of Czechoslovakian make. The Japanese casualties totalled only 4.

The Japanese garrison at Wukialu, about 20 kilometres west of Chienshan, was attacked ineffectively by some 300 Chinese soldiers on the night of August 16th.

The Japanese garrison at Liangtingho, about 20 kilometres north of Hwangmei, repulsed the 700 Chinese soldiers who launched an attack at 4:30 a.m., August 20th. The enemy left about 200 dead. Some 100 Chinese regulars attacked Poliangting, about 8 kilometres southwest of Liangtingho, at 2:40 a.m., August 20th, but the Japanese garrison drove them away.

On August 27th, the Japanese detachment at Hwangmei dislodged the Chinese troops from Hsiungyunshan and Paitzeshan, about 8 kilometres northwest of Hwangmei, and reached the line between Paiyangling and Meishihling.

On the evening of August 30th, the Sano, Wakamatsu, Nakano, Hasegawa, Fujimura and Koga detachments advanced to the line connecting Howshanpu, Hungkialing and Fengshuling and at the following dawn started a general attack on the enemy near Tahopu. The Japanese detachments at Howshanpu and Hungkialing broke through the enemy positions at Poshankow and reached Tahopu at 3 p.m. The Japanese left column started operations from the line extending north and south from Fengshuling and dislodged the enemy from Sifosze at 5 p.m.

The Japanese forces reached the line extending north and south from Shwangcheng and Chienkialu, south of Shwangcheng, at 5 p.m., September 1st. The following day, they broke through the line connecting Howhuchai,

Ejenchai and Maolichai. They occupied Kinshansze and Tafushan on the afternoon of September 4th.

At dawn, September 5th, the Japanese forces advanced from the line between Wufengshan and Tafushan and took Patieh at noon. Giving running fight to the retreating enemy, the Japanese forces reached the line extending north and south from Maolichai at 2 p.m., capturing 4 field-guns and 600 rounds of ammunition.

The enemy attempted to resist the Japanese onslaught along the line connecting Hengkangshan, Efengshan and Shihmenshan, but was pressed back by the Japanese, who took all the key points east of Kwangtsi on the afternoon of September 6th. Kwangtsi fell into Japanese hands at 3 p.m., the same day.

Kwangtsi is an important town on the shortest highway from Anhwei Province to Hankow. Taking advantage of the mountainous topography between Hwangmei and Kwangtsi, the Chinese military authorities had established numerous defence works between the two towns, which were guarded by picked troops under General Li Pin-hsien, but the Japanese onslaught proved irresistible.

From Luchow (Hofei) to Liuan and Kushih

The Japanese vanguard which had been standing by at Luchow (Hofei) at the eastern base of the Tapieh mountain range and on the Hwainan Railway left Luchow on its western drive in extremely hot weather which registered 130 degrees, Fahrenheit on August 22nd. The vanguard dislodged about 80 Chinese soldiers from Kwanting shortly after 1 p.m., August 23rd, when it captured a Chinese staff-officer, a major. At 7 p.m., it reached Kinkiao.

On August 25th, the Japanese force reached Erhshihwulipu. Part of the force was detailed to Tungerhshihlipu to drive away about 200 Chinese soldiers. On August 27th, the Japanese advanced to a point roughly 8 kilometres east of Liuan, when an attack was started on the eastern Chinese positions of Liuan. The south gate of Liuan was occupied at 4 p.m., August 28th. The walled town was completely occupied at 10 p.m., the same day. The Chinese troops which defended Liuan consisted of the 14th, 16th, 104th and 204th divisions. They left about 1,000 dead, while the Japanese casualties were 5 killed and 30 injured.

The Ota, Nishirokujo, Fukuei and Mori detachments, after reducing Liuan crossed the Pi river and at 9 p.m., August 30th reached Hsukiatsi, about 14 kilometres northwest of Liuan. At 7:30 p.m., the following day, the Japanese force reached Hungkiatsi without encountering any hostile force on the way.

On September 1st, the Japanese force advanced to Wulungmiao. The weather was alternately fine and cloudy. The thermometer registered 108 degrees, Fahrenheit, in the sun and 89.7 degrees in the shade.

The following day, the Japanese force started from Wulungmiao for Likiatsi. Roads were turned into veritable quagmires by rains, so that the Japanese baggage corps experienced great difficulty in advancing. The Japanese detachment which reached Likiatsi crossed the Shih River

at a point south of Shihfotien on the night of September 3rd. The next afternoon, Nantakiao, 8 kilometres south of Kushih, was attacked. It was reduced at 5:30 p.m.

On September 5th, a general attack was launched on Kushih. A salient of the walls of Kushih was occupied on the night of September 6th. The walled town was completely occupied on the morning of September 7th. Kushih is a strategically important town in the valley of the Shih at the northern base of the Tapieh mountain range.

From Shucheng to Shangcheng

The Morozumi, Satomi, Soyeda and Kurabayashi detachments which pushed westward from the line between Taokichen and Shucheng south of Luchow reached Chunshukang district on the veening of August 26th. These detachments crossed the Pi River near Sukiapu on the evening of August 28th. Part of the Japanese force was detailed to attack the northern extremity of the heights north of Hwoshan. Covered by artillery, the Japanese force took the north gate of Hwoshan shortly after 8 p.m., August 29th, after over 20 hours of severe fighting. The same night, the Japanese completely occupied Hwoshan. The enemy left about 300 dead, while the Japanese casualties totalled 11 killed and 40 wounded. Another part of the Japanese force routed the Chinese troops which had been retreating from Liuan, and occupied Nanyomiao, about 20 kilometres west of Liuan, on August 29th and Tushanchen on August 30th.

All the Japanese troops crossed the Pi River in their westward push on August 29th and 30th. The detachment which advanced along the highway from Hanpatu to Taolimiao via Nanyomiao surrounded the Chinese troops at Taolimiao on the morning of August 31st and took the Chinese first defence line on the evening of September 1st. The enemy totalled about 2,000 men belonging to the 114th division. They retreated leaving about 260 dead. The Japanese losses were 5 killed and 40 wounded. Pursuing the retreating enemy, the Japanese forces reached the area east of Yehkiatsi at 3 p.m., September 1st and started an attack on the 1,000 Chinese soldiers who had taken up positions there.

All the roads to Yehkiatsi had been deliberately destroyed by the Chinese troops, so that no vehicle could be moved along them without repairing the destroyed spots.

At 5 p.m., September 2nd, the Japanese troops captured Yehkiatsi. The enemy retreated to the west of the Shih River, with their numerical strength materially weakened.

Part of the Japanese force reached Kaishunkai on the Shih River at 2 p.m., September 2nd. Taking advantage of the twilight, the Japanese troops crossed the river. The following evening, the Japanese first line extended from Chungtsitze to Shihmemkow via Fukinshan (about 4 kilometres southwest of Yehkiatsi). The enemy was about 2,000 strong, belonging to the Chinese 36th and 114th Divisions.

On the morning of September 4th, the Japanese right wing penetrated deep into the enemy positions. The same evening, the Japanese first line extended from Hwachwangchiao, about 2 kilometres west of Yehkiatsi,

to a height northwest of Liushutien via Changkialu. Stiff resistance was offered by the enemy on September 5th. A Chinese prisoner of war stated that the Chinese 36th division reached Fukinshan as reinforcements. A Japanese detachment reached Shuihokiachung on the evening of September 5th via Hungshihchiao for the purpose of cutting off the retreat of Chinese troops.

The war situation developed favourably from the morning of September 6th. That evening, the Soyeda detachment made a fierce attack on Fukinshan. The Satomi unit which formed the Japanese right wing successfully stormed Shunhotien at 6 p.m., swooping down from the north by a roundabout way. The enemy strength was later ascertained to be about 30,000 men, composed of seven infantry divisions and one cavalry division.

The Front South of the Yangtze

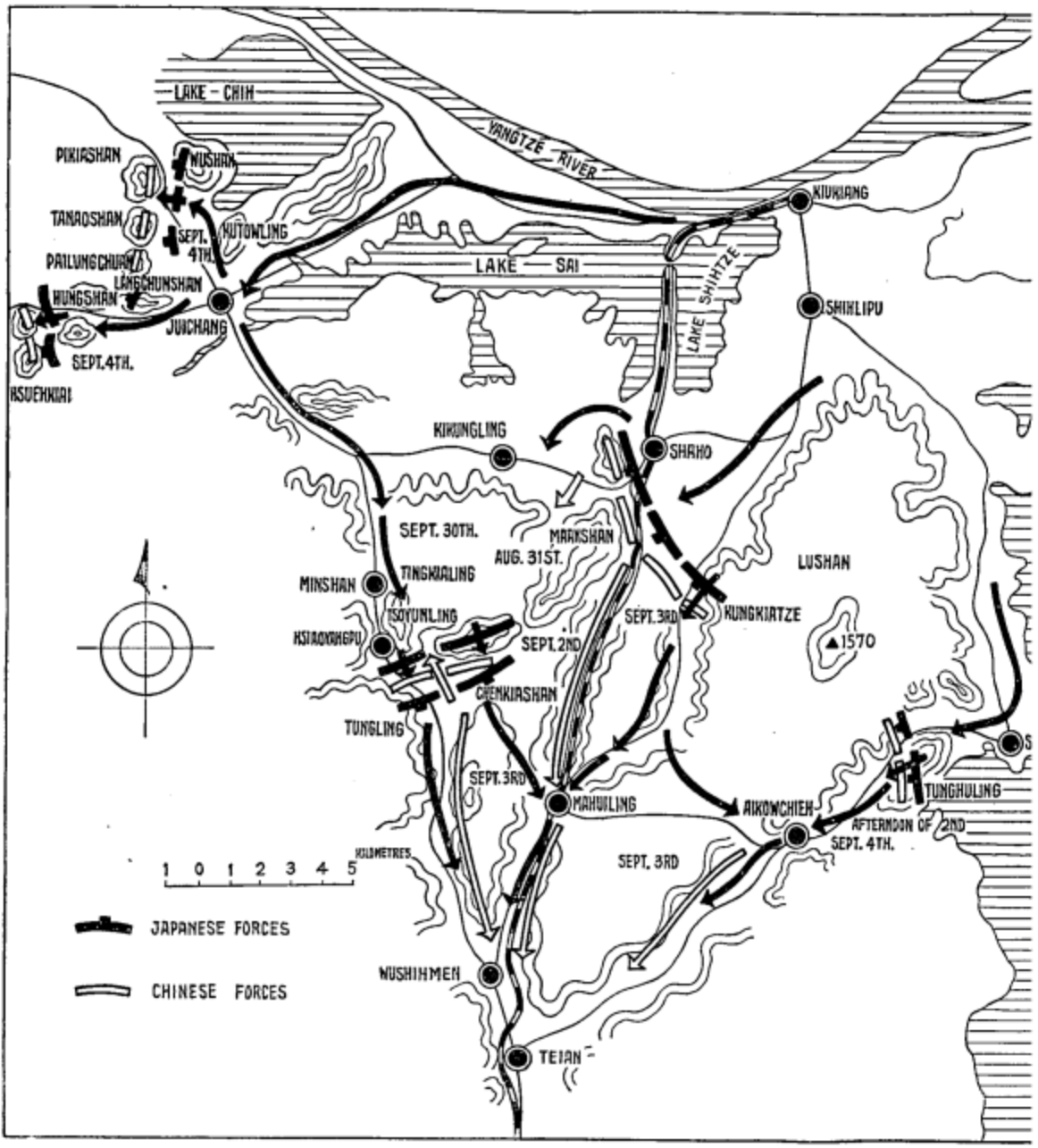
Kiukiang and West of Kiukiang

Since their occupation of Kiukiang, the Japanese forces have given attention to the restoration of peace and order in the town. British and American officials and residents were permitted to visit the city on August 6th, when American residents told the Japanese authorities that they were satisfied with the protection extended them by the Japanese Army, paying tribute to the Japanese air forces for their accurate marksmanship in aerial bombing. The commanders of the British and American gunboats expressed their thanks to the Japanese authorities for the full protection extended to the British, American and French buildings in Kiukiang before they left the town.

The main body of the Japanese force left Kiukiang at 5 p.m., August 19th, reaching Palipu, about 10 kilometres northeast of Juichang, at 9:30 a.m., August 21st. At 3 p.m., that day, the Japanese force reached the line between Tsaokiayo and Hsientienyo. The enemy at this sector consisted of three divisions of troops. On August 23rd, the Japanese force advanced to the area north of Pinniuling, about 5 kilometres north of Juichang. The Hirata, Ishimoto, Nakajima and Matsuda detachments successfully reduced Juichang at 4 p.m., August 24th, fighting against heavy odds in the extremely hot weather which registered 140 degrees, Fahrenheit. Juichang is an important town in northwestern Kiangsi Province.

Taking one height after another west of Juichang after August 26th, the Japanese force reached the line extending north and south from Hungshan, about 5 kilometres west of Juichang, on August 27th. On September 4th, the Chinese troops were dislodged from their positions at the Yunkiai height, some 8 kilometres southwest of Juichang. The Chinese troops at the heights north of Yunkiai have since been surrounded by the Japanese troops.

Another Japanese unit dislodged the Chinese troops from Liyuyo and Pichiayo south of Juichang. On August 28th, this detachment advanced to the line between Yaoshan and Changling. Pursuing the enemy in a southern direction, the detachment occupied Minshan at 6 p.m., August 29th, Hsiaoyangpu at 1 p.m., August 30th and Tsoyunling on August 31st. The enemy



Detailed Map

showing progress of Japanese forces in the Kiukiang, Juichang and Teian sector up to September

staged several counter-attacks, but was repulsed by the Japanese troops on every occasion. The Japanese first line then advanced to the line connecting Hsiaoyangpu, Jaokiashan and Tingkialing.

On September 1st, the Chinese 103rd and 185th divisions reached the field as reinforcements from Teian on the Kiukiang-Nanchang Railway, but were driven back by the Japanese troops, which succeeded in reaching the area north of Tsaokiapan, about 6 kilometres northwest of Mahweiling. The Chinese troops left about 2,000 dead as the result of the engagements on August 30th and 31st, while the Japanese casualties were about 60.

This Japanese detachment engaged nine Chinese divisions, namely the 13th, 15th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th and 95th from August 24th when it started operations near Juichang. The capture of the detachment included 4 mountain guns, 1 trench-mortar, 6 machine-guns of Czechoslovakian make and 200,000 rounds of ammunition.

The Japanese forces driving southward reached Mahweiling at 5:40 p.m., September 3rd. They are now pushing to Teian on the Kiukiang-Nanchang Railway, by pressing back the Chinese troops in the region west of the railway. The Chinese troops left 7,300 dead as a result of the engagements on September 2nd and 3rd.

The Area West of Lake Poyang

The Iizuka detachment which landed on the western shore of Lake Poyang on August 14th and 15th steadily drove southward, pressing back the enemy. This detachment in cooperation with a naval landing party occupied Singtze on the western shore of Lake Poyang at 7:15 a.m., August 21st. The detachment kept up its western drive and took Wuchinyo at dawn, August 22nd. At 4 p.m., August 23rd, the detachment reached the line connecting Wutsun, Changkia and Kwanhsingmiao. Keeping up its drive, it occupied the eastern slope of Tungkuling Hill on August 27th.

The Iizuka and Tsuda detachments launched a combined general attack on Tungkuling Hill on the evening of August 30th. The situation began to develop favourably for the Japanese in the right wing sector, and at 11 a.m., September 1st, the key point in the enemy left wing was taken. On September 2nd, the Japanese forces succeeded in capturing the summit of Tungkuling Hill, about 6 kilometres west of Singtze, and a height north of it and gave chase to the retreating enemy. In the three-day engagement, the Chinese troops left 160 dead in addition to 10 who were taken prisoner. The Japanese casualties totalled 24 killed and 101 injured. On the afternoon of September 2nd, Colonel Iizuka, Commander of the Iizuka detachment, was killed in action. At noon, September 4th, the vanguard of the Japanese force was advancing southward between Tungkuling Hill and Aikowkai.

The Western Base of the Lushan Mountain Range

The Japanese forces operating in the foot-hills at the western base of the Lushan Mountain Range were fighting not only against the Chinese troops, but also against a malaria epidemic.

Successfully pressing back about 5 Chinese divisions, the Tanaka, Motojima, Ichikawa and Sonoda detachments advanced to the line extending west and east from Shahochen on July 30th. These detachments reached the line connecting Tatienshan, the northern base of Mount Maan (Saddle Mountain) and the southern base of Mount Chaomao on August 4th. Commander Tanaka of the Tanaka detachment was killed in action in this sector.

The Japanese forces battered the enemy positions along the line extending north and south from Saddle Mountain. On August 29th, they occupied a salient of the Chinese first defence line near Kungkiashih. The Chinese troops offered stubborn resistance, but their strength was broken on September 2nd when the Japanese troops succeeded in outflanking them.

The Shansi Front

The Japanese unit which occupied Puchow, the southern terminus of the Tatung-Puchow Railway, on August 17th broke through the enemy positions near Hsintien south of Puchow on the morning of August 23rd. On the morning of August 27th, this detachment launched an attack on the Chinese troops, about two divisions strong, which had taken up positions near Fenglingtu on the northern bank of the Yellow River opposite Tungkwan. After two days of severe fighting, the detachment succeeded in reducing Fenglingtu at 6 p.m., August 28th, by routing the enemy, although the Chinese artillery force at Tungkwan shelled the Japanese force heavily. It must be mentioned to the credit of the Chinese troops that they offered very stiff resistance, being watched as they were by the desertion prevention corps at Tungkwan on the southern bank of the Yellow River.

Another Japanese detachment advanced to the area east of Juichang at the southwestern extremity of Shansi Province on August 22nd and occupied Juichang at 9 a.m., August 23rd.

The Japanese garrison at Lishih in west-central Shansi Province on August 22nd drove away the Chinese troops which attacked the Japanese positions.

The Northern Honan Front

The Japanese detachment which started operations from Hwaiking in northern Honan Province on August 25th attacked the Chinese troops in the Menghsien district. On August 27th, this detachment dealt a crushing blow to some 4,000 Chinese soldiers who belonged to the 166th and 87th divisions, in the region southeast of Tsiyuan. The enemy left about 300 dead, while the Japanese casualties were 6 killed and a few injured. On August 29th, this unit started an attack on the Chinese troops, which had established positions at a height northeast of Tiehhsieh on the northern bank of the Yellow River.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

II

— FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY IN ACTION —

PUBLICITY BUREAU, NAVY DEPARTMENT

With Hankow now exposed to Japanese attack from north, south and east, the Chinese military authorities are making frantic efforts to defend their capital. Especially strenuous efforts are being made by the Chinese along the Yangtze River in order to check the advance of the Japanese naval force. New forts are set up at various points on either bank of the river; strong booms are constructed at several points above Kiukiang and numerous mines are laid at many points. Yet the Japanese naval force is steadily advancing, silencing the enemy fire from both banks of the river, removing booms and sweeping mines.

On August 21st, a Japanese landing party in cooperation with military units completely occupied Singtze, an important town on the western shore of Lake Poyang. The party was protected by the naval air force.

While assisting the naval force on the Yangtze River and the military forces both north and south of the Yangtze, the Japanese Naval Air Force is attacking the enemy positions and troop concentrations on both banks of the river and also north and south of the Yangtze.

In addition, the air force has visited Nanyung in Kwangtung Province and attacked the Chinese air base there. In an ensuing air combat, the Japanese raiders shot down 17 Chinese fighting planes. Chuchow, a key point of the Chinese line of communication in Hunan Province was also attacked, while Kingshan, the Chinese new base of operations in Hupeh Province was visited, where the military works were showered with bombs.

Sustained attacks are being made by the Japanese naval planes on the various strategic points in South China, including Yinchanyao on the southern section of the Canton-Hankow Railway, where the steel bridge was bombed and destroyed, thus interrupting the service on the railway.

The Japanese Naval Air Force in China

Activities of the Japanese Naval Air Force from August 9th till September 5th are outlined below.

August 9th The naval air force was active extensively in both Central and South China. Kian and Changshuchen in Kiangsi Province were visited and the airfield at Kian was effectively bombed while military goods trains and military depots were bombed at Changshuchen. Troop concentrations west of Lake Tai were also attacked. A Chinese transport was bombed and stranded at a point downstream from Kichun.

Canton, Tsengpu, Saitsun, Kongtsun, Chuntien, Shekpai and Pakwan in South China were visited. The Provincial Headquarters of the Kuomintang and military works nearby were bombed in Canton, while munition factories were bombed and destroyed at Tsengpu.

Troop and military goods trains were attacked at Saitsun and Kongtsun on the Canton-Hankow Railway, while part of a steel bridge near Chuntien was bombed and destroyed. The Canton-Kowloon Railway was disrupted near Shekpai and the airfield at Pokwan was bombed with the result that one hangar was burnt.

August 10th A naval air squadron, braving a downpour, attacked Canton. Saitsun on the Canton-Hankow Railway was also attacked, while munition factories at Tsengpu were bombed. Another air unit bombed and sunk a 100-ton Chinese torpedo-boat at a point downstream from Echeng.

August 11th The most vigorous air raid since the beginning of the China Affair was made by a Japanese air squadron led by Lieutenant-Commander Kuno on Hankow. Japanese planes visited not only Hankow but Wuchang and Hanyang, dropping several hundred bombs at the military works in the three cities.

A separate unit flew over the Yangtze valley and bombed and sunk over a dozen junks engaged in military operations below Hwangshihkang. An ammunition dump on the bank nearby was bombed and burnt, while the Chinese military positions and munition depots at Chichow were effectively bombed.

In South China, Wuchow, Koyiu, Yinchanyao and Changmutow were raided. A sulphuric acid factory at Wuchow was bombed and destroyed; the airfield at Koyiu was effectively bombed; the steel bridge south of Yinchanyao was destroyed; the railway station at Laitung was attacked and burnt; the railway track between Yuantan and Pakonghow was destroyed at eight spots; and the steel bridge near Changmutao was partially destroyed.

August 12th Over one hundred Japanese naval planes flew in formation over Hankow, Wuchang and Hanyang and effectively bombed the military establishments in those places. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders. In Hankow and Wuchang, the railway stations and godowns were attacked, while the Chinese military headquarters, munition factories and cotton mills in Wuchang were effectively bombed.

The Japanese naval air unit which visited the Yangtze valley bombed and sunk one 50-ton Chinese military launch together with 4 junks. Another unit visited Yinchanyao and Pitsun in South China. The steel bridge south of Yinchanyao was again bombed, while the Canton-Kowloon Railway was disrupted at eight points near Sheklung.

August 13th Hankow, Kian and Nanchang were raided by naval planes at dawn. The airfield in Hankow was attacked and the gasoline depot was burnt, while one Chinese plane was bombed and burnt and another heavily damaged on the ground. The airfield and railway station at Kian was attacked, and a goods train and seven godowns were destroyed. The new and old airfields at Nanchang were attacked together with the railway station where a goods train was destroyed.

Yangsin, Yushan, Ningpo, Lishui, Hwangchow and Kichun in Central

China were raided. Military works and troop concentrations at Yangsin were bombed; the airfield and military depots were attacked at Ningpo; the airfield was attacked at Lishui; a Chinese military steamer containing explosives was bombed and sunk near Hwangchow; and several military junks were bombed and sunk at a point below Kichun.

Several points on the Canton-Hankow and the Canton-Kowloon Railways in South China were visited. Further damage was done to the steel bridge near Yinchanyao which had been destroyed by Japanese aerial bombardments and on which repair work was going on; the railway station compound at Yinchanyao was also bombed; a repair-wagon was bombed and destroyed near Chuntien; and the steel bridge and railway track were destroyed near Changping on the Canton-Kowloon Railway.

August 14th A naval air squadron visited Hsingshan in Central China despite the foul weather and effectively bombed the Chinese artillery positions southeast of Hsingshan and troop concentrations and ammunition dumps there.

Yinchanyao, Sinkai and Tienho in South China were raided. The steel bridge south of Yinchanyao was again attacked and the railway station compounds at Sinkai and Tienho were effectively bombed.

August 15th The Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze River were attacked. Four Chinese heavy bombers raided Kiukiang, but two of them were brought down by Japanese naval planes.

Canton, Saitsun, Chuntien and Yinchanyao were raided in South China. A 20-wagon military goods train was bombed and burnt at Wongsha in Canton, the terminus of the Canton-Hankow Railway and buildings in the station compound were burnt. Another military goods train was also bombed at Saitsun and the railway track was disrupted at several points near there. Still another military goods train was bombed at Chuntien.

August 16th A large Japanese naval air force led by Lieutenant-Commander Tanamachi raided Hankow, Wuchang and Hanyang, without being challenged by a single Chinese plane, though greeted by a heavy anti-aircraft battery fire.

The group of Japanese planes which visited Hanyang bombed the iron works, military arsenal, and anti-aircraft batteries, as the result of which conflagrations started at five places with small fires breaking out at many points. The military tribunal, the headquarters of the 2nd Division and military works at Wuchang were effectively bombed with fires breaking out at several places. The Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze River were again attacked.

Naval planes flew over Yinchanyao, Yuantan, Sheklung and Pokwan. The steel bridge south of Yinchanyao was bombed and further damaged; part of the steel bridge south of Yuantan was blown up together with the railway track at two points near Yuantan; part of the steel bridge near Sheklung was blown up; and the airfield at Pokwan, a suburb of Canton was effectively bombed.

August 17th A naval air unit led by Lieutenant Katsumi raided Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, and bombed the railway stations there, with the result that munition depots were destroyed. Another naval air unit attacked the Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze river.

The steel bridge south of Yinchanyao which was under repair was bombed and rendered useless for train service. Chuntien on the Canton-Hankow Railway was also visited and a military goods train was bombed. The railway track was destroyed at several points near there.

August 18th A large naval air force led by Lieutenant-Commanders Sata and Mano visited Hengyang and Paoking in Hunan Province and attacked the airfields there. The Chinese military authorities have been trying to reconstruct their air force with Hengyang as its base, following the abandonment of Nanchang.

The naval planes led by Lieutenant-Commander Sata, that attacked Hengyang, succeeded in shooting down 16 out of about 30 Chinese fighting planes of the E 15 and 16 and Dewoitine types after severe fighting. The Japanese airmen succeeded in burning 6 and bombing 6 other planes out of a total of some 20 Chinese heavy bombers of the S.B. type and medium-sized bombers on the ground, while three gasoline depots and one big godown were bombed and destroyed north of the airfield. Some of the Japanese crews were wounded, but all the Japanese planes returned to their base in safety.

Another Japanese naval air unit led by Lieutenant-Commander Mano visited Paoking and effectively bombed the airfield there. Still another unit commanded by Lieutenant Inouye attacked the Chinese warships near Echeng on the Yangtze River and sank one 50-ton Chinese military launch. This unit encountered over a dozen Chinese heavy bombers of the S.B. type which had raided Kiukiang. In the ensuing air duel, the Japanese unit brought down 4 Chinese bombers, while 3 more Chinese planes disappeared in cloud banks, trailing black smoke. One Japanese plane was lost in the engagement. Thus the naval air force shot down 23 Chinese planes in air combats and destroyed another 12 on the ground.

The naval air squadron which visited South China attacked Yinchanyao, Kongtsun, Chuntien, and Shektan. The steel bridge under repair near Yinchanyao was damaged again. Steel bridges and railway tracks near Kongtsun and Chuntien were bombed and destroyed, while the centre of the steel bridge near Shektan was blown up.

August 19th Juichang, Teian, Singtze, Wusueh and Tienkiachen were visited by naval planes. Chinese military works and troop concentrations were bombed at Juichang; the railway station, munition depots and Chinese military positions were attacked at Teian on the Kiukiang-Nanchang Railway; Chinese troop concentrations northwest of Singtze were repeatedly attacked; the Chinese military positions at Wusueh and Tienkiachen on the Yangtze above Kiukiang were attacked throughout the day, while numerous Chinese junks engaged in military operations nearby were attacked and sunk.

Yinchanyao, Hwangtsun, Chuntien and Shektan were raided in South China. The bridge south of Yinchanyao was struck again; the anti-aircraft batteries and machine-gun emplacements near the bridge were effectively bombed; and railway bridges and tracks near Hwangtsun and Chuntien were attacked.

August 20th Yinchanyao and Pitsun in South China were raided. The Yinchanyao bridge and the anti-aircraft batteries and machine-gun emplace-

ments nearby were effectively bombed. The steel bridge near Pitsun was blown up.

August 21st Over 30 naval planes led by Lieutenant-Commander Tanamachi visited Wuchang and bombed the Chinese military barracks southwest of Wuchang. Another naval air squadron attacked the Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze River above Kiukiang.

August 22nd Chuchow in Hunan Province was raided, and godowns, goods trains and munition factories there were bombed, while the Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze were attacked.

The military works and railway tracks at Yinchanyao, Pitsun and Kowtang on the Canton-Hankow Railway were bombed.

August 23rd Chuchow in Hunan Province was raided and the factory zone and railway compound there were bombed. About 100 loaded wagons were destroyed.

Another naval air squadron visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and attacked the Changmutow and Kowtang stations. The steel bridge at Kongtsun was bombed and damaged.

August 24th Lieutenant-Commander Mano, leading a naval air force, raided Ichang in Hupeh Province and effectively bombed the airfield there, without being challenged by a single Chinese plane. Hangars, godowns and official buildings were bombed and burnt.

Another naval air squadron repeatedly attacked the Chinese positions and troop concentrations on the Juichang front. Yinchanyao, Yuantan and Sheklung were raided in South China.

August 25th Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, and Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, together with Kian were raided. A naval air squadron led by Lieutenant-Commander Yasunobu raided Changsha and bombed the North and East Railway Stations there.

Another naval air unit, commanded by Lieutenant Nakagawa attacked Kian in Kiangsi Province and bombed the airfield there. Still another naval air unit led by Lieutenant Soyeda visited Nanchang and bombed military depots there. A naval air squadron which raided Wuchow bombed and burnt a bullet manufactory and a sulphuric acid works.

Another air unit which flew over Yinchanyao bombed the railway bridge south of it and damaged its girders.

August 26th Changsha was raided and the airfield and railway station there were bombed with the result that fires broke out at three different places.

A separate air squadron visited the Juichang front and heavily bombed the Chinese positions, troop concentrations and line of communication.

Still another naval air unit visited Canton and bombed Wongsha Station, the southern terminus of the Canton-Hankow Railway. The railway bridge near Hwangtsun and the railway station compound at Sinkai were also bombed.

August 27th The Juichang front was again attacked and the Chinese positions were heavily bombed. The Chinese artillery positions and troop concentrations west and southwest of the Lushan mountain range were also bombed. The naval air unit flying to Nanyung attacked the airfield without being challenged by a single Chinese plane.

August 28th The strongly-built Chinese artillery positions on the Jui-

chang front and troop concentrations west of Juichang were effectively bombed.

August 29th A large naval air force led by Lieutenant-Commander Tanamachi made a surprise attack on Kingshan in Hupeh Province which formed an important outpost of Hankow. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders, nor did a single Chinese anti-aircraft battery open fire on them. The Japanese effectively bombed various military works, munition depots and military headquarters. They returned to their base safely, after circling over Kingshan several times to ascertain the effects of their bombing.

Another naval air unit flew to Juichang repeatedly bombed the Chinese artillery positions and troop concentrations on the western shore of Chihu (Red Lake). Several junks containing Chinese troops on the lake were bombed and sunk.

Shiuchow (Kukong) on the Canton-Hankow Railway was raided and the railway station and airfield were effectively bombed. Chinese planes did not challenge the Japanese raiders, who returned to their base safely, though they were fired on heavily by Chinese anti-aircraft batteries.

August 30th A naval air squadron commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Yasunobu flew to Changsha. The Japanese planes were challenged by three Chinese fighter planes of the E 15 type, which, however, were soon driven away. The Japanese bombed hangars and godowns at the airfield.

Naval air units commanded by Lieutenants Katsumi and Nonaka in cooperation with the Japanese ground forces attacked the Chinese military positions and troop concentrations west of the Lushan mountain range throughout the day.

A separate squadron visited Chihu and repeatedly bombed the Chinese artillery positions west of the lake in cooperation with the Japanese ground force and the naval force on the Yangtze.

Nanyung, Chenhsien and Shiuchow (Kukong) were raided in South China. A naval air unit which visited Nanyung, the border-town between Hunan and Kwangtung Provinces, sighted four Chinese planes over the city, but the latter escaped. Then the Japanese planes proceeded to Chenhsien on the Canton-Hankow Railway and attacked the airfield, destroying three Chinese planes on the ground. Various military works in the town were also effectively bombed.

Another naval air unit attacked Shiuchow (Kukong) on the same railway and bombed and burnt hangars in the airfield there. Another naval air unit also raided Nanyung. This unit was challenged by 17 Dewoitine fighting planes, all of which it succeeded in shooting down after fierce fighting. Two Japanese planes were lost in the engagement.

August 31st Naval air units attacked the Chinese artillery positions and troop concentrations on both banks of the Yangtze River. Chinese positions west of Chihu as well as those at the western base of the Lushan mountain range were bombed and machine-gunned.

Naval air units commanded by Lieutenants Mori, Nakamura and Igarashi and Sub-Lieutenant Oka showered bombs at the Chinese positions north of the Yangtze River. A large naval air force commanded by Lieutenant-

Commander Mano visited Chuchow in Hunan Province and bombed the North and East Railway Stations. Scores of junks near the North Station were bombed and sunk. All were loaded with munitions. Fires broke out at no less than 33 godowns in the East Station Compound. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders.

Fungshun and Yinchanyao were visited in South China. Japanese planes, after bombing military works at Canton, raided Yinchanyao and bombed the steel bridge south of it which had been almost completely repaired. Strong machine-gun emplacements were found nearby. The naval air unit which raided Fungshun in eastern Kwangtung Province effectively bombed the local military works and barracks.

September 1st Several naval air squadrons continuously bombed and machine-gunned the Chinese military positions and troop concentrations on both banks of the Yangtze River. Other air units which visited the Canton-Hankow and Canton-Kowloon Railways bombed and destroyed the steel bridge at Pitsun and inflicted heavy damage on those at Paishih, Shektan and Yuantan.

September 2nd Sustained attacks were made on the Chinese military positions on both banks of the Yangtze River.

Pitsun and Wuchow were visited in South China. The steel bridge was blown up at Pitsun, while the bullet manufactory, sulphuric acid factories and godowns were bombed at Wuchow.

September 3rd In cooperation with the Japanese ground forces, several naval air squadrons effectively bombed and machine-gunned Chinese troops fleeing southward from the western foothills of the Lushan mountain range.

The naval air units visiting South China disrupted the southern section of the Canton-Hankow Railway at four points.

September 4th In close collaboration with the ground forces, several naval air squadrons attacked the Chinese artillery positions and troop concentrations south of Kiukiang and northwest of Juichang.

Naval air units led by Lieutenants Mori and Nakamura visited Yunghsien and showered bombs on the Chinese positions and troop concentrations nearby. Mahweiling was also attacked and the Chinese troops which already showed signs of wavering were bombed and machine-gunned.

Another naval air squadron visited Kwangtsi north of the Yangtze River and effectively bombed the Chinese artillery positions, troop concentrations and military motor-lorries at points east of Kwangtsi.

Naval planes which visited South China bombed and destroyed a military goods train near the steel bridge south of it. The railway bridge and track near Yuantan were bombed and destroyed.

September 5th Yochow, Sinyang, Nanchang, Kwangtsi, Mahweiling, Teian, Yunghsin and Yuichang in Central China were visited. Engine-sheds, godowns and other buildings in the station compounds were bombed at Yochow, while the ammunition dump, godowns and power-stations were bombed at Sinyang.

Godowns and munition dumps at the railway station at Nanchang were bombed; Chinese artillery positions and troop concentrations were attacked in the Kwangtsi district; Chinese troop concentrations in the woodlands near Mahweiling were attacked; artillery positions were bombed at

Teian; Chinese military positions and caravans of military motor-lorries were attacked along the highway between Teian and Yunghsiu; and the Chinese field artillery positions and troop concentrations northwest of Juichang were effectively bombed and machine-gunned in cooperation with the ground forces.

Pakonghow and Yuantan on the Canton-Hankow Railway were raided and the railway bridges and tracks near there were bombed. One Japanese plane was lost during the operations.

While the naval air squadrons were engaged in bombing Yuantan, a plane, appearing to be an enemy heavy bomber was sighted flying northward over Yuantan. The Japanese aeroplanes immediately gave chase to this suspicious plane, but stopped their attacks when the plane was ascertained to be one of the Eurasia Aviation Corporation. Such flights not only hinder the Japanese military operations, but are very dangerous when made through the zone of operations of the Japanese air forces.

The Japanese Naval Force on the Yangtze

A Japanese landing party entered Singtze on the western shore of Poyang Lake at 6 o'clock on the morning of August 21st through the south gate. They occupied the walled town completely within an hour in cooperation with the military force which entered by the east gate.

Japanese warships penetrated into Poyang Lake and appeared in front of Singtze, after sweeping mines. The warships covered the marine and military forces in the latter's attack on Singtze.

August 22nd The Chinese heavy artillery positions were silenced by the Japanese warships, while the Chinese artillery near Singtze was also silenced.

August 30th The naval force advanced up the Yangtze under a scorching sun, by silencing the Chinese positions on both banks of the river in cooperation with the army and the naval air force.

September 4th The naval force in cooperation with the military force made a steady drive up the Yangtze River.

CONCERNING THE INVITATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

I

The Telegram Sent by the League to the Imperial Government on September 19, 1938

The Council, having before it the formal request from the Chinese Government for the application to the Sino-Japanese dispute of the provisions of Article 17 of the Covenant relating to disputes between members of the League of Nations and non-member states, has the honour to address to the Imperial Government the invitation provided for by the first sentence of the said Article on the understanding that if the invitation is accepted Japan will have, as regards the dealing with the dispute under Article 17, the same rights as a member of the League of Nations.

The Council would be glad to be informed of the reply of the Imperial Government as soon as possible.

II

The Reply

September 22, 1938.

Mr. Joseph L. A. Avenol
Secretary General of the League of Nations
Geneva

I acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of September 19th, 1938, transmitting the invitation based on the first paragraph of Article 17 of the Covenant, and addressed to the Imperial Government by the Council of the League of Nations.

The Imperial Government holds to its firm belief that the method as envisaged by the Covenant of the League of Nations can not bring about a just and adequate solution of the present conflict between Japan and China. Its attitude in this regard has repeatedly been made clear in the past.

I have the honour of bringing to your knowledge that, for this reason, the Imperial Government regrets that it is not able to accept the invitation of the Council.

Kazushige Ugaki
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

LAWS AND ORDINANCES RECENTLY PROMULGATED

PRIME MINISTER'S CABINET

Treaty Concerning the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property

(Treaty No. 5 Promulgated on July 27, 1938)

THIS Treaty is known as the Paris International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, signed by plenipotentiaries of Japan and other interested countries at London on June 2, 1934. It came into force on August 1, 1938. The Treaty was originally signed at Brussels in 1897 and subsequently revised at Washington D.C. in 1911, at the Hague in 1925, and at London in 1934.

Effective Date of the Law for Agrarian Adjustment

(Imperial Ordinance No. 525 of July 29, 1938)

Ordinance Concerning the Operation of the Law for Agrarian Adjustment

(Imperial Ordinance No. 526 of July 29, 1938)

Ordinance Concerning Registration of Farm Land Tilled by the Owners

(Imperial Ordinance No. 527 of July 29, 1938)

Revision of the Regulations Concerning the Operation of the Registration Tax Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 528 of July 27, 1938)

The Law for Agrarian Adjustment (refer to TOKYO GAZETTE Nos. 9–10) was put into operation on August 1, 1938, when the Ordinance concerning its operation was promulgated. The rules of registration were fixed in accordance with the provisions of Art. 7 Clause 3 of the Law, and revision of the registration tax was provided for.

Organization of Commission for Readjustment of Transportation Enterprises

(Imperial Ordinance No. 543 of August 3, 1938)

According to the provisions of Art. 2 Clause 1, Art. 3 Clause 3 and Arts. 5 and 12 of the Land Transportation Readjustment Law, the competent Minister is required to act on the recommendation of the commission regarding the decision or arbitration concerning the fixing of the area for and mode of carrying out readjustment of transportation enterprises. This commission is placed under the supervision of the Prime Minister and, in addition to the above duty, is authorized to make recommendations on its own initiative on matters concerning land transportation enterprises to the Ministers concerned. The Prime Minister is president of the commission and is assisted by the Ministers of Railways and Home Affairs. The members, both standing and special, are appointed from among officials of the Government Departments concerned, members of Parliament and persons with expert knowledge. The term of office of the members is three years, with the exception of those appointed from among Government officials. For special reasons, members may be relieved of their responsibilities even during their tenure of office.

Revision of the Ordinance Concerning the Badge to be Worn by Soldiers Wounded in Action

(Imperial Ordinance No. 553 of August 3, 1938)

The present revision concerns the change in the design and form of the badge to make it more appropriate and less gloomy-looking. The new badge is to be worn also by soldiers in active service. In order to facilitate the work of protecting wounded soldiers, register-books will be kept recording the personal records of individual soldiers. This Ordinance came into force on September 1st. The badges awarded under the old Ordinance as well as the certificates of such awards are considered as having been given under the present revised Ordinance. At the discretion of the War and Navy Ministers, the old badges and certificates will be exchanged with the new ones.

Effective Date of Part of the Electric Power Control Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 574 of August 9, 1938)

Ordinance Concerning Operation of the Electric Power Control Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 575 of August 9, 1938)

Effective Date of the Japan Electricity Generation and Distribution Company Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 576 of August 9, 1938)

Ordinance Concerning Operation of the Japan Electricity Generation and Distribution Company Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 577 of August 9, 1938)

Effective Date of Law Concerning Disposal of Corporation Debentures Accompanying Electricity Control under Law No. 78 of 1938

(Imperial Ordinance No. 578 of August 9, 1938)

Ordinance Concerning Operation of Law Relating to Disposal of Corporation Debentures Accompanying Electricity Control

(Imperial Ordinance No. 579 of August 9, 1938)

Organization of the Commission for the Appraisal of Electric Power

(Imperial Ordinance No. 580 of August 9, 1938)

The Electric Power Control Law, Articles 1 and 2, the Japan Electricity Generation and Distribution Company Law and Law No. 78 of 1938 were all put into force on August 10th, and with them were promulgated Imperial Ordinances concerning the operation of these laws. A commission was created for the appraisal of electric power under the supervision of the Minister of Communications for the purpose of conducting investigations on matters which have come under the charge of the Minister in accordance with the Japan Electricity Generation and Distribution Company Law, Articles 9 (Clause 2), 14 (Clause 5), and Law No. 78 of 1938 (Art. 5 Clause 2). This Commission also conducts investigations and studies on matters relating to the appraisal of the plants belonging to the Japan Electricity Generation and Distribution Company.

Amendment to the Ordinance Concerning the Temporary Capital Adjustment Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 590 of August 15, 1938)

With regard to the condition of demand for capital and commodities and with a view to adjusting the demand more drastically, the minimum

amounts subject to licence or approval under the above-named law have been lowered as regards capital investment and loans (refer to TOKYO GAZETTE No. 3). In consequence, the limits were lowered from 500,000 yen to 200,000 yen in the case of corporation capital, and from 150,000 yen to 100,000 yen in the following cases: loans, subscription acceptance, transactions in subscriptions of securities and establishment of new equipment, extension or improvement with one's own capital.

Effective Date of the Aeroplane Industry Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 605 of August 27, 1938)

Operations in Chosen of Part of the Aeroplane Industry Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 606 of August 27, 1938)

Ordinance concerning Operation of the Aeroplane Industry Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 607 of August 27, 1938)

The Law concerning the manufacture of aeroplanes came into force on August 30th. In accordance with the purpose of the Law, part of it has been put into operation in Chosen and the regulations necessary for its operation have been laid down.

Organization of Commission on the Aeroplane Industry

(Imperial Ordinance No. 609, 1938)

Organization of Commission on Mechanical Technique in the Aeroplane Industry

(Imperial Ordinance No. 610, 1938)

With the enactment of the Aeroplane Industry Law, the Commissions on the Aeroplane Industry and Mechanical Technique in the Aeroplane Industry were created under the supervision of the Minister of Communications. The former conducts investigations and studies on matters coming under the charge of the Communications Minister by the provisions of Art. 18 Clause 1 of the same law. This Commission also carries on investigation, at the request of the competent Minister, on the more important matters relating to the aeroplane industry. This latter Commission holds investigations and studies on matters on aeroplane mechanical technique falling to the charge of the Minister of Communications under Art. 6 Clause 1 of the Law, and also conducts investigation on the essential matters concerning the technical side of the aeroplane industry, in response to the inquiry of the

competent Ministers of State. Both Commissions are composed of a chairman, who is the Minister of Communications, and twenty members. Where necessary, additional members may be specially appointed.

Trade Agreement between Japan, Manchoukuo and Italy

(Treaty No. 6 Promulgated on August 31, 1938)

This Treaty is concluded with Italy as one party and Japan and Manchoukuo as the other for the purpose of stimulating trade between the two parties and arranging for payments. The Treaty was promulgated together with supplementary documents on August 31, 1937 and put in force as from September 1st.

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